



GAUTENG PROVINCE

COMMUNITY SAFETY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ms. WM Mosupyoe, MPL
Speaker of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature
Private Bag X52
Johannesburg
2000

Dear Madam Speaker,

**RESPONSE TO QUESTION 5.PS063 TABLED BY MEMBER I CILLIERS
DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (DA), DUE ON 31 AUGUST 2026**

**5.PS063. Further to the Premier's reply to Written Question 5.PS049
dated 14 July 2026, can the MEC please indicate:**

- i. On what date did the Gauteng Provincial Government first become aware of possible irregularities or non-compliance relating to the R197.4 million Simunye Air Charter contract;

Reply:

**The possible irregularities came to the Department's attention on
23 July 2024.**

- ii. Who first raised concerns regarding the procurement or implementation of the Simunye Air Charter contract;

Reply:

**The concerns emerged during the 2023/24 external audit process
by the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA).**

- iii. Which officials were involved in the evaluation, recommendation, approval and appointment of Simunye Air Charter;

Reply:

The department participated in the RT61-2018 transversal contract which is facilitated by National Treasury.

- iv. What disciplinary, precautionary or other action has been taken against the four officials identified as persons of interest in relation to the contract;

Reply:

At this stage, no disciplinary or precautionary action has been instituted against the officials identified as persons of interest. Any disciplinary, civil, criminal or administrative action will be determined by the outcome of the ongoing investigation.

- v. What is the current classification of the R156,454,504.65 already paid under the terminated contract in terms of irregular, fruitless and wasteful or other expenditure;

Reply:

The transactions were reported as irregular expenditure.

- vi. What steps have been taken to recover any money determined to have been irregularly or improperly spent under the Simunye Air Charter contract;

Reply:

The outcomes and findings of the investigation will determine all the necessary steps that the Department should to take including possible recovery of funds.

- vii. What oversight or approval role did the Office of the Premier exercise in relation to the procurement before the R197.4 million contract was awarded;

Reply:

The Office of the Premier did not participate or get involved in the procurement process referred to herein. The department participated in the RT61-2018 transversal contract which is facilitated by National Treasury.

- viii. On what date was the Premier personally informed of concerns, irregularities or possible non-compliance relating to the Simunye Air Charter procurement;

Reply:

The Department, as part of its reporting requirements, periodically briefs the Premier on progress related to its work. This would have been part of such reports, especially during the compilation of the Annual Report and meetings of the Department.

- ix. What has been the operational impact of the termination of the contract on aerial crime-fighting, traffic enforcement, surveillance and other law-enforcement operations in Gauteng; and

Reply:

The termination of the contract resulted in a limitation of the Gauteng Airwing Unit's dedicated aerial operational capacity. However, the Department has continued to support operations through alternative arrangements, including collaboration with strategic law-enforcement partners, the deployment of drones where operationally appropriate, and continued operational planning, coordination and ground-based support functions to mitigate the impact on law-enforcement operations.

- x. What is the estimated cost and timeline for procuring a compliant replacement Airwing service, and by what date is the Gauteng Provincial Government expecting the Airwing to resume full operations?

Reply:

The estimated cost of a replacement Airwing service will be determined through a procurement process. The department anticipates concluding the procurement process by end of quarter 3, subject to the finalisation of the tender process which includes, bid evaluation, bid adjudication and approval by the delegated authority and appointment of the successful service provider.

Regards,



Mr. Andrek Panyaza Lesufi, MPL

Premier of the Gauteng Provincial Government

Executive Authority of Gauteng Department of Community Safety

Date: 21/09/20